tory. Educated at Caltech, where he received his BS in 1951 and PhD in 1955, he served on the physics faculty of the University of Michigan for several years before joining UC Berkeley in 1960. An experimental particle physicist, Trilling has studied hadron interactions and resonances and electron–positron annihilation at high energy.

G. TRILLING

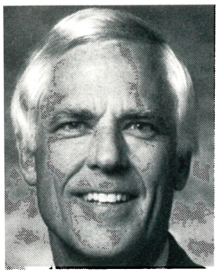
Also taking office next month will be the new chair-elect of the nominating committee, Michael S. Turner, a professor and the chair of the department of astronomy and astrophysics at the University of Chicago, and four new members of the APS council: L. Craig Davis (Ford Research Laboratory); Philip H. Bucksbaum (University of Michigan); Leon Lederman (Illinois Institute of Technology); and James Trefil (George Mason University).

In other APS election news, members overwhelmingly approved changes to the constitution to allow electronic balloting in future elections.

Powell Will Lead OSA in 2001

Richard Powell of the University of Arizona has been elected vice president of the Optical Society of America for 1999. Powell, who will succeed Erich Ippen, will take office at the start of next month and assume the presidency of OSA in 2001.

Powell received his BS from the US Naval Academy in 1962 and his MS and PhD in physics from Arizona State University in 1964 and 1967, respectively. He worked at Sandia National Laboratories for three years before joining the physics faculty at Oklahoma State University in 1971. In 1992, he moved to the University of Arizona, where he is a professor and director of the optical sciences center. Powell has studied the spectroscopic and lasing properties of solid-state lasing materials, and most recently he has been working on the development and application of all-solid-state Raman lasers and amplifiers.



R. POWELL

Three new members of the OSA board of directors will also take office next month. They are Peter Knight (Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine in London, England); Don Scifres (SDL Inc); and Richard Shoemaker (University of Arizona).

AVS President-Elect for 1999 Is Grunthaner

On 1 January, Paula J. Grunthaner will become president-elect of the American Vacuum Society. She will succeed Stephen Rossnagel, AVS's president for 1999.

Grunthaner earned her BS and PhD in chemistry from Caltech in 1975 and 1980, respectively. For the past 23 years, she has been at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, where her work has included development of advanced sensors for NASA applications, including silicon-based ultraviolet, low-energy x-ray and low-energy proton–electron detectors. Recently, she has been working on microchemical analysis systems for *in situ* planetary exploration.

P. GRUNTHANER

Also taking office next month will be Joseph E. Greene (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Linköping University in Sweden), who was reelected clerk, and John W. Coburn (University of California, Berkeley), who was elected treasurer. The three new directors of AVS are Cammy R. Abernathy (University of Florida); Gregory J. Exarhos (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory); and Peter M. A. Sherwood (Kansas State University). The two new AVS trustees are Dawn A. Bonnell (University of Pennsylvania) and Leonard J. Brillson (Ohio State University).

IN BRIEF

The x-ray satellite ROSAT is defunct, its operators announced on 3 November. The ultraviolet filter that protected the satellite's x-ray camera was destroyed when a reaction wheel malfunctioned, forcing the satellite to point at the Sun. The mishap occurred on 20 September, just three weeks after the satellite had been brought back on-line following the failure last April of the satellite's navigating star tracker. Launched in 1990, ROSAT greatly surpassed its original two-year life expectancy. It was designed and built under the guidance of scientists at the Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics in Garching, Germany, who carried out an All-Sky Survey during the satellite's first six months in orbit (see PHYSICS TODAY, November, page 53); since then, observation time has been divvied among the German, American and British space agencies. ■

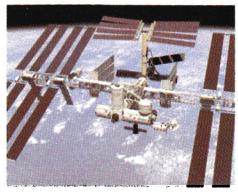
Web Watch

http://www.gaussian.com

As described on page 20, John Pople earned a share of this year's Nobel Prize in Chemistry for developing GAUSSIAN, a series of computer programs that use quantum mechanics to calculate molecular energy levels. The **Official Gaussian Home Page** details the latest version of the program, Gaussian 98, and explains how you can obtain your own copy.

http://station.nasa.gov

The current annual cost of the beleaguered **International Space Station** is about $2 billion, but there's more to the vast project than its cost. NASA's Space Station Web site offers up-to-date information about the assembly and launch of the various station modules, as well as a large collection of images.



http://www.nsf.gov/od/lpa/news/publicat/frontier/

Available on the Web since January 1996, the National Science Foundation's monthly magazine *Frontiers* reports on advances in mathematics, science and engineering and on issues in education and public policy.

To suggest topics or sites for Web Watch, please contact *ptwww@aip.org* by e-mail.

Compiled by CHARLES DAY